









matter as the City Council. There is no particular reason why the aldermen of the city should represent the whole metropolis, and there are some reasons why they should not do so. A Metropolitan Board, composed either of efficient men appointed by the Government, or elected from the various municipalities in the metropolis, would be the proper body to guard the interests of the public in this matter as well as in several others that might be named. But this body has to be brought into existence, Meanwhile such appointments as would be deemed necessary might be left with the Government. If this business is successfully dealt with—and it is clear that it will have to be dealt with at no distant date—a more comprehensive bill will have to be introduced than the one that led to the inquiry to which we have referred. Such a bill might provide for the enlargement of the Gas Company's powers on the one hand and for some additional advantages to consumers on the other. By a measure of this description the company would be made equal to the claims it has to meet, while the interests of the public would be made secure.

It was but natural that Mr. Forster's appointment to the position of Minister for Justice should provoke some criticism, and the remarks on the subject that were made in the House on Friday could hardly be said to be unseemly or unfair. Mr. Forster was Attorney-General in the last Government, and though not by any means an extreme man, he sat on the Opposition side of the House, and was regarded as an Opposition member by both sides. We imagine that the hon. gentleman has looked upon himself pretty much in the light in which he has been looked upon by other people. Mr. Forster has given his support to various Government measures, but this has been done by a good many men who do not figure as supporters of the Ministry. Such an appointment, as the one which a good many honorable members were disposed to criticise, can hardly be said to be in strict accordance with party usages. But it must be remembered that there has been no very strict adherence to such usages in this colony for a long time past. The present Government was formed on a comprehensive basis, and a comprehensive policy in the selection of new members is quite in harmony with all its antecedents. An Administration that includes Sir HENRY PARKER and Sir JOHN BURNETT must very consistently take in Mr. Forster, who, though he has been in some sense a party man, has never been a partisan. We do not see that there was any very grave objection to Mr. Forster's being asked to join the Government, or to his accepting the post when it was offered to him. It will be well if we get no more serious departures from public consistency. The conduct of the country in regard to such positions as the one referred to is that they should be filled by men of ability and influence rather than by party men. If we are to have a Minister for Justice at all, it is exceedingly desirable that the office should be filled by a man who is worthy of it and who will add to the strength of the Government. Further, although the appointment of a lawyer to the office is not necessary, it is for many reasons expedient. Those who took to Mr. Forster's appointment were prepared to admit that the honorable gentleman is eminently fitted for the post. The public are very likely to take this view. Mr. Forster is one of the most thoughtful and most respected members of the Assembly. He will certainly add to the debating strength of the Government, and is likely to increase its capacity for usefulness. To the best appointments exception will be taken, particularly in the Assembly, where there are so many candidates for office, but the Government would have had some difficulty in making a more suitable appointment than the one that has been announced.

The two members for West Sydney, Messrs. CAMBON and O'CONNOR, have been selected by the Government as their medium of communicating a somewhat novel and very interesting piece of intelligence to the public. In reply to a petition of railway employees asking for a recession of the determination to reduce their wages, made in consequence of the reduction of their time from nine to eight hours a day, Mr. GOONCHAIR informed the members abovementioned that "it was intended to restore the wages if, after some experience, it was found that no increased cost was incurred in carrying out the eight-hour system." Apparently this intention was kept a profound secret; and with reason, for it leaked out that the railway employees were upon their trial, with such a premium in prospect to stimulate their industry, the last world obviously have been an unfair one. Presuming that the secret was faithfully kept, and that the men have only been doing, during their unconscribed period of probation, exactly what they are prepared to do regularly, the Department was perfectly right in giving up what they now acknowledge to have been an unnecessary hour's work a day. Still, Mr. GOONCHAIR writes if he had some modicum of misgiving remaining in regard to the future, for he says: "I am to add that the Minister trusts that the men will show themselves deserving of this concession, by continuing so to work that they will be able to accomplish in eight hours what they previously did in nine hours, so that no unnecessary expenditure may be incurred by the Department in consequence of the reduction of the hours of labour." The hope should have been—in order to equal the confidence—that no expenditure would be caused by the reduction, not "unnecessary expenditure," and if the previous nine hours work is invariably done in eight hours, there will be none. Did the Minister take any guarantee? And that will be his measure for the daily tale of work! The Railway Department is extending its operations very fast, requiring additional hands in all its branches. Who is to know whether the increase henceforth will be due to the expansion of business or to the eight-hour reduction? Mr. LUCKY's "trust" reads so very like an admission to suggest some curiosity as to how it will be received. A good honest day's work of eight hours should be quite sufficient to carry on the world's business, and give every man a fair share of the means of living and the comforts of life, and the Government need no apology for being of that opinion. They not only say that, but take shelter under the fact that henceforth they hope the men "will be able to accomplish in eight hours what they previously did in nine hours." A man who shirked his nine hours' work will shrink eight hours, while the honest workman will perform that which he undertakes with unbridled fidelity. Mr. LUCKY has made the bargain, and all he has to do now is to see that the public get a fair day's work for the wage he has undertaken to give, without appeal to anything outside of the contract.

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

Our cablesgrams of this morning are chiefly taken up with the Irish crisis. The Government is arresting one after another of the ring-leaders in the agitation as they come forth with their denunciatory and inflammatory speeches. Mr. John Dillon had scarcely finished a speech in which he incited the people to arrest the arrest of Mr. Parnell, he is himself arrested and sent to prison. Many other violent agitators have had to submit to a like fate. Within their leaders in gaol, the malcontents will probably find it convenient to obey the law. The Government are evidently acting with great determination, and there can be little doubt as to the issue. If the constitution, or military, or both, are brought into collision with the people, it is to be hoped they will not be tempted to avenge the insults and injuries which they have had patiently to submit to during the past year or so—that having the giant's strength they will not tyrannously use it like a giant. Amongst other items of news, the statement that Hanlon has

accepted Trickett's challenge to row for the championship will be received in Sydney with much interest.

For P. and O. Company's steamship *Ravena*, with the English mails via Suez to September 3, reached Hobart yesterday. The Sydney portion of her mails should be forwarded to-morrow morning. The *Ravena* came right through from London, and will return direct to London. The P. and O.'s Indus, *Rohilla*, *Home*, *Carthage*, and *Kaiser-Hilfe* will also come through from London, and make the throng passage on their return. Two of the steamers—the *Rome* and the *Carthage*—are quite new, and will be on their maiden voyages. The whole of their passage accommodation for the outward trip to Australia is, we understand, already taken up. The arrival of the *Rome* and *Carthage* is looked forward to with a considerable amount of interest, as they are two of the largest vessels in the P. and O. Company's powerful fleet.

In reference to the Telephone Exchange in conjunction with the Sydney Exchange Company of which we spoke in a previous issue, we learn that the work of connecting the several places of business has been carried out by the Government Telegraph Department, for which the actual cost of construction and an annual charge for maintenance is made. We may also mention that the Government have contemplated for some time the establishment of a Telephonie Exchange, which has been delayed for want of suitable office accommodation and the selection of the best kind of instruments. It has now been decided to invite applications from the general public, merchants, and others who are desirous of connecting their places of business or private dwellings with the universal switch system at the Central Telegraph Office, George-street, and which will be under the control of the Government. There are already about 100 telephones connecting private lines, constructed and maintained by the Telegraph Department, including that along Elizabeth-street, which was erected for working the Hill-street and Redfern traffic.

The bill to incorporate the New South Wales Institute of Surveyors, now before Parliament, consists of 22 clauses, the first of which contains the short title, and interpretation of terms. Clause 2 is as follows: "All present and all future members are hereby constituted and declared to be a body corporate, by the name of The New South Wales Institute of Surveyors, and by that name shall have perpetual succession, and a common seal, sur and impaled, and to be impaled, proceed or be proceeded against, in all courts whatsoever, with power to acquire, hold, and dispose of absolute owner any and all personal property vested in such body corporate by this Act. And all real and personal property not belonging, or hereafter to belong, to or held by any person for or on behalf of the institute shall vest in the said body corporate. Provided always that no sale, mortgage, encumbrance, or disposition whatsoever of any such property, shall be lawful, unless previously sanctioned by resolution of a general or special meeting of members. The bill then goes on to define the qualification of members, who are to be of full age of 21 years, and to have practised as a surveyor for not less than five years; and it provides for the election of members. The management of the institute is to be in the hands of a council, consisting of a president, vice-presidents, honorary secretaries or trustees, honorary treasurer, and not less than six committees, to be elected or appointed annually as hereafter directed. At all meetings of the council five members shall be a quorum. Provision is made for the election of members of the institute, and for supplying vacancies that may occur. The powers of the council are defined, and arrangements made for special meetings of the council, as well as ordinary meetings. Then provision is made for annual, ordinary, and special meetings of the institute, for due notice to be given, for the President to take the chair at such meetings, or in his absence, one of the vice-presidents; or should neither be present, for the meeting to elect one of its own number to preside. It is also enacted that it shall be lawful for the council to grant certificates of competency in such form and upon such conditions as may be prescribed by law to be made heretofore to all or any of its members, and all such members shall be entitled to designate themselves members of the institute, and to use the suffix of M.L.S. to their names. The bill then gives power to make by-laws, which when duly confirmed are to have the force of law. The council are to have the custody of and power to use the corporate seal; and no person is to be entitled to recover fees for professional services as a surveyor, unless he is a member of the institute, or by license by the Surveyor-General. In reference to this bill, a memorial in opposition to it has been submitted to Parliament from certain surveyors, who assert that the bill has not been confirmed in accordance with the rules of the society, and is therefore improperly submitted; that the members of the institute are so divided in opinion respecting the bill that further action should be deferred; that the feeling of the whole of the members had not been obtained; that a number of surveyors of high standing had declined to become members of the institute, and it was therefore not thoroughly representative; and that the public already possess a sufficient guarantee for the competency of surveyors by the necessity for their obtaining a license.

As soon as the enjoyable marine excursions, under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association, took place on Saturday afternoon. A large number of persons availed themselves of the commodious steamer *Quondam* to proceed to the head of Middle Harbour, and as the weather was all that could be desired, the pleasure of the trip was complete. A landing took place at Hunter's Bay, refreshments were partaken of, and the party returned to town before dark. These excursions are regarded as among the features of this useful institution.

The annual excursion in connection with St. Matthew's Sunday-school took place on Saturday, the pleasure-seekers proceeding to Chowder Bay. Over 850 children marched from the schoolroom to Double Bay, and there they were conveyed in the steamer *Alister* to the picnic ground. Later in the day the same steamer conveyed about 800 visitors from Circular Quay. Refreshments and the usual sports were provided, and after spending a very pleasant day the sailors and their friends were safely landed again at Double Bay.

We have received from Mr. George Robertson, publisher of George-street, two pamphlets, the one being a lecture on Royal Beaconsfield, recently delivered by Major J. A. Ferguson (captain of Prince Consort's Own Rifle Brigade) in the Town Hall, Adelaide, before the Young Men's Christian Association of South Australia; and the other a paper on a great mathematical question, by Mr. T. Wakelin. All students of biography, and especially those who take an interest in the career of so remarkable a man as the late Prime Minister of England, will find the lecture a most instructive one. Not only does Major Ferguson relate his own experiences, and describe what he has seen and heard with reference to the deceased lord, but the lecture also contains a contribution by the Right Hon. Sir James Ferguson, the present Governor of Bombay and former Governor of South Australia. After describing the general qualities for which Dinsdale was distinguished, and the position in which his conduct was marked, Sir James says: "If failed, he was disengaged, and so he ultimately triumphed"; and this is the lesson which is to be gained by the study of the career of so great a statesman. The great mathematical question with which Mr. Wakelin deals is one which relates to the measure of the kinetic energy of a moving body. The object of the pamphlet is to show that the ordinary measure of the kinetic energy of a mass in motion is an erroneous one. We have also received a pamphlet on the "Great Fire at Chicago," printed by Messrs. Walter Abbott and Co., and published by the Liverpool and Globe Insurance Company. Some of the lessons which it is desired by means of the pamphlet to impress upon the community are the possibility in most large cities of a great conflagration, the ruin to a community if the companies used which it depends be unable to meet their engagements; and the risk of depending upon insurance companies which have not been led by heavy reserves. The pamphlet shows that the actual loss caused by the fire was 192,000,000 dollars; that it occasioned a depreciation of real estate to the extent of 88,000,000 dollars; and that the loss which arose to business through the vessel either from the shore or from the sea, except on one occasion when some Pijians in an open boat managed to get within prohibited bounds. These were arrivals from the islands; they were unaware of the state of affairs, and did not know what they were doing.

The Bishop of Melbourne performed the ceremony of laying the cornerstone of the extension of All Saints' Church, Woolloomooloo, on Saturday afternoon. Previous to the ceremony a religious service was held, when the Bishop delivered an eloquent address on the subject of the relation of morality to religion.

We are requested to state that at the annual meeting in aid of St. Mary's Cathedral Building Fund, which is to take place this evening, the interior of the new edifice will be brilliantly illuminated, by which means the beautiful and massive proportions can be easily observed, and their grand architectural effect advantageously displayed. ample provision has been made by an energetic committee for the comfort of all persons, and a very large gathering is expected.

We would remind all those who take an interest in the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind, that the annual meeting in connection therewith takes place this (Monday) afternoon, at 3 o'clock, at the institution, Newtown-road. His Excellency the Governor has consented to take the chair. A highly satisfactory report and balance-sheet will be submitted, and it is hoped there will be a good attendance. The recently introduced "German system of articulation" and lip language, will be explained and illustrated, and the ordinary methods of imparting instruction, also communication between the deaf and dumb and the blind, will be shown. There will also be other interesting matters in connection with the education of these afflicted creatures, and specimens of their needs, fancy, and other work will be on view.

The Balmoral Juvenile Industrial Exhibition, in connection with the Bathurst Grand Juvenile Exhibition, will be opened to-morrow, at the School of Art, Balmoral, at 11 o'clock. His Excellency the Governor, with Lady Augustus Loftus, has consented to be present on the occasion. The committee are working

hard to make all things successful. Over 400 competitive, and about 100 non-competitive exhibits have been entered, many of them of a highly interesting character.

At a general meeting of the St. Leonards Swimming Club, held at the Town Hall, North Shore, Mr. William Tanks in the chair, the minutes of the last general meeting and the report and balance sheet for the last season were read and adopted, showing a balance in hands of the hon. treasurer of £5 10s. Mr. William Tanks was unanimously elected president; B. Welsh, hon. secretary; and Fred. Cavill, hon. swimming master.

A new fire engine, recently purchased for the use of the Waterloo and Alexandria Fire Brigade, was christened on Saturday afternoon, at the Alexandria Town Hall, by his Excellency the Governor, in the presence

of some 1400 of the residents of those suburbs. The sufferer was very ill, Mrs. Johnston caused her to be conveyed home in a cab. Mrs. Burns attended to her daughter, who seemed to get better. She suddenly became worse at half-past 9 o'clock on Saturday morning, and two doctors were sent for, but death took place before either arrived. Mrs. Burns had, we understand, consulted a doctor about the beginning of the year.

While a party of ladies and gentlemen were inspecting the fortifications at Georges Head, on Saturday afternoon, one of their number—Mr. Walter Adrian Bucknell, a surveyor, residing at Macdonalds—suddenly fell down a shaft a depth of 50 feet. The sufferer, Alister, which was passing at the time, was haled, and Bucknell was taken on board, and removed to the Infirmary. It was found that he had received a severe cold wind, and fracture of the left leg, as well as other injuries. The sufferer, who was unconscious, never rallied, but died at half-past 8 o'clock yesterday morning.

ABOUT A quarter to 9 o'clock on Saturday evening a male infant, aged six weeks, was found at the back of Victoria-terrace, Albion-street, Surry Hills. Three-quarters of an hour previously a woman was seen nursing the child in Albion-street. She is described as being 18 years of age, and as having worn an old dark tweed dress, a white straw hat turned up at the sides and having black lining, and a shawl, in which the child was wrapped when it was found. The infant was taken to the benevolent Asylum.

The woman named Mary Shakespeare, who escaped from the Asylum for the Insane at Parramatta on the 9th instant, was recaptured on the 13th instant by Constable Lunnin, of the Stanmore lockup, and sent back to the Parramatta institution.

At a meeting of Irishmen convened to protest against the proceedings of the Government in Ireland.

It is expected that the Government will follow up its acts in arresting the ringleaders of the Land League by suppressing the League and seizing its papers.

AN attempt has been made at Cork to blow up the house of a land agent. The attempt, however, was not successful.

## THE IRISH CRISIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, Oct. 15.

There is great excitement in Ireland occasioned by the firm attitude of the Government, and the arrest of several of the chief agitators. In many places the telegraph lines have been broken.

Those parts of Ireland not already under proclamation as "disturbed districts" have now been proclaimed as disturbed, and the Government are exercising the powers which have been conferred upon them by recent legislation. The navy is being reinforced, and the military and police are preparing for any emergency.

John Dillon, M.P. for Tipperary, is inciting the people to avenge the arrest of Parnell.

Mr. Herbert Gladstone, member for Leeds, who is in Dublin, has had his life threatened.

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THE SCULLING CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD.

LONDON, Oct. 15.

Hanlan has accepted a challenge from Edward Trickett to row for the sculling championship, for £200 a-side.

EMIGRATION OF DURHAM MINERS.

LONDON, Oct. 15.

Large numbers of Durham miners are emigrating to America.

THE ASSASSIN GUITEAU.

LONDON, Oct. 15.

The assassin Guitreau has been arraigned on a charge of murdering the late President Garfield.

A VILLAGE BURNED.

LONDON, Oct. 15.

A village in Dorsetshire has been destroyed by fire, and a hundred persons have been rendered homeless.

WATERSPOUT IN ALGERIA.

LONDON, Oct. 15.

A huge waterspout broke over Algiers, doing great damage to property. No fewer than sixty-five persons were killed.

WRECKS ON THE SCOTTISH COAST.

LONDON, Oct. 15.

During a severe gale which raged on the east coast of Scotland a steamer and sixty sailing craft were wrecked.

THE TIMES ON TASMANIA.

LONDON, Oct. 15.

The *Times*, in a leading article on Tasmania, speaks very highly of the resources and prospects of that colony.

PRICE OF SUGAR.

LONDON, Oct. 15.

The price of sugar has improved 9d. per cwt.

(REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.)

DISASTROUS HURRICANE IN ENGLAND.

LONDON, Oct. 15.

A disastrous hurricane in England has swept over a large extent of country. The storm raged with great severity for many hours, causing enormous destruction of property. Buildings were blown down, and several deaths are reported to have resulted from injuries received during the storm.

A special *Gazette* was issued to day for formally proclaiming "Boycotting" of landlords, or the coercing of tenants, and others to join the Land League, to be a criminal act; and it is further notified that all persons so offending will be rigorously proceeded against. The proclamation has already intensified the feeling prevailing.

YESTERDAY afternoon a man named William Pimlett, a resident of Pitt-street, Waterloo, who was run over by a carriage, was conveyed to the Infirmary, where it was found that he had received injuries on the back, abdomen, and head.

YESTERDAY afternoon a man named William Pimlett, a resident of Pitt-street, Waterloo, who was run over by a carriage in Regent-street, Waterloo, but who was in a very weak condition, was found to have practised as a surveyor for not less than five years; and it provides for the election of members. The management of the institute is to be in the hands of a council, consisting of a president, vice-presidents, honorary secretaries or trustees, honorary treasurer, and not less than six committees, to be elected or appointed annually as hereafter directed. At all meetings of the council five members shall be a quorum. Provision is made for the election of members of the institute, and for supplying vacancies that may occur. The powers of the council are defined, and arrangements made for special meetings of the council, as well as ordinary meetings. Then provision is made for annual, ordinary, and special meetings of the institute, for due notice to be given, for the President to take the chair at such meetings, or in his absence, one of the vice-presidents; or should neither be present, for the meeting to elect one of its own number to preside. It is also enacted that it shall be lawful for the council to grant certificates of competency in such form and upon such conditions as may be prescribed by law to be made heretofore to all or any of its members, and all such members shall be entitled to designate themselves members of the institute, and to use the suffix of M.L.S. to their names.









